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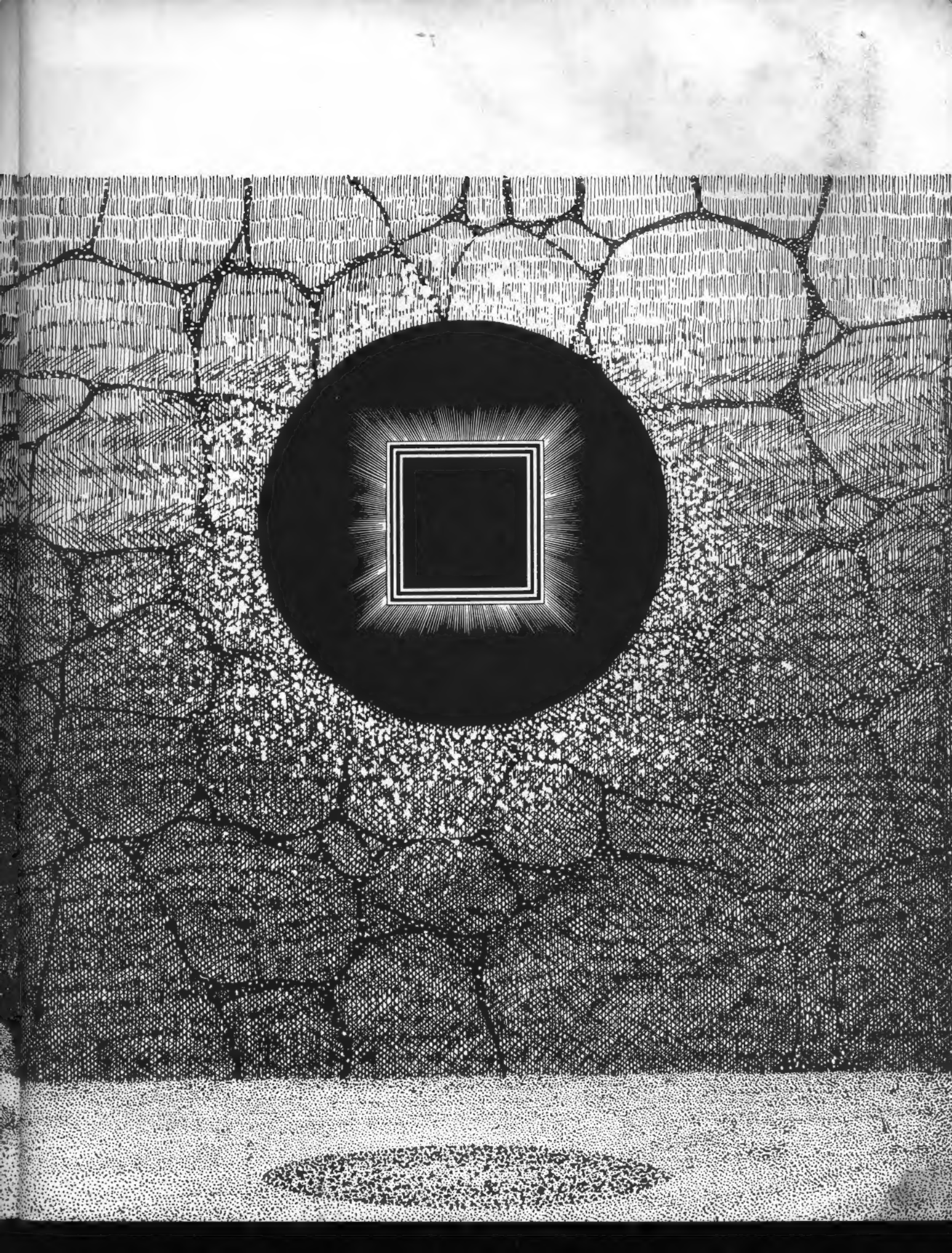
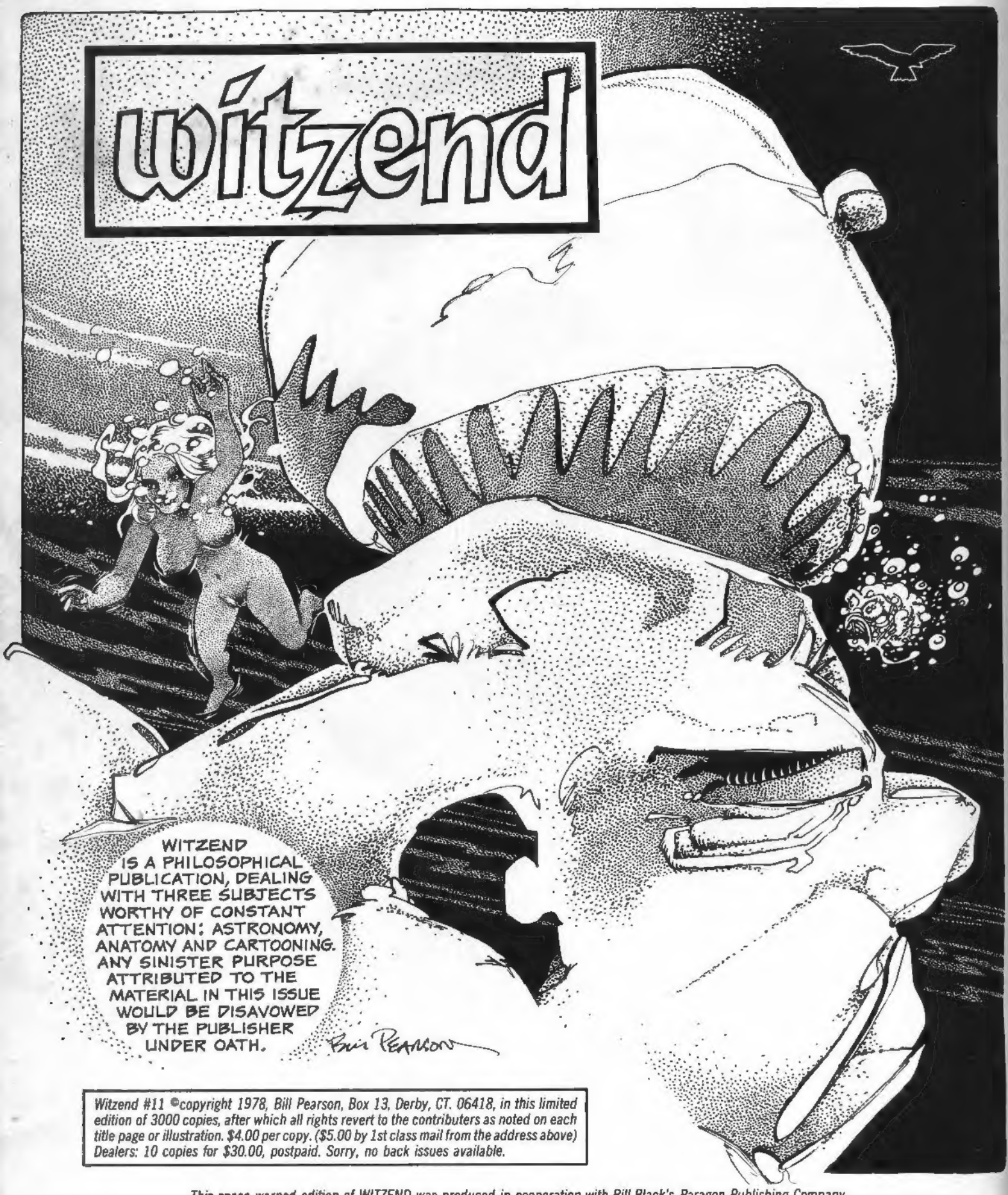
Bud Plant

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Bill Pearson

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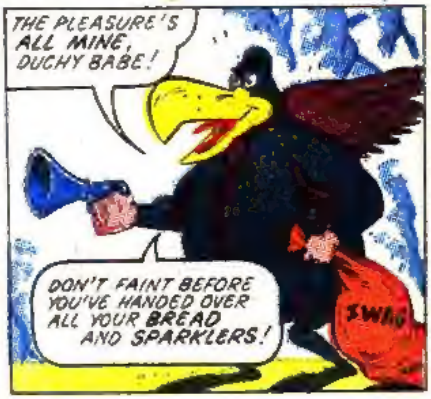
ON SALE EVERY MONDAY

PANIC on the PAN-MARTIAN HIGHWAY!
ROADLINER Zb-4 TO BASE: REBEL SPACECRAFT TRYING TO LAND IN LANE 23: WE'LL ALL BE CREAMED TO A PULP... AAARGH!
MARS IS THE ANGRY PLANET
INSIDE!

FASTER THAN A RUNNY NOSE - STRONGER THAN PUTTY - IT'S

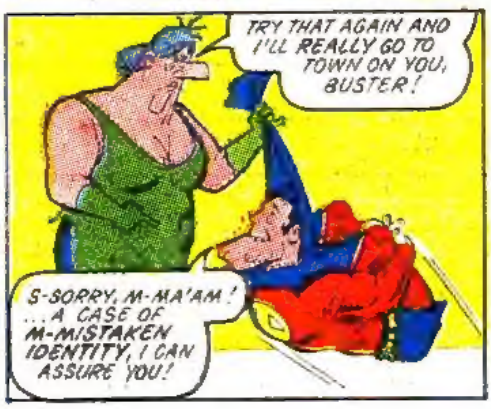
CAPTAIN KLEP

HIGH ABOVE THE STREETS OF MINIOPOLIS A POWER-PACKED FIGURE KEPT A LONELY VIGIL
IS IT A PLANE?
IS IT A CRISP BAG?
NAW! IT'S ONLY KLEP!



DRIFTING ACROSS THE SKYSCAPE, SOME SECOND SENSE TOLD KLEP THAT ALL WAS NOT WELL...
HMMM... SOMETHING IS GOING ON DOWN THERE... I'D BETTER INVESTIGATE!

QUIT STALLING, LADY, AND PUT IT IN THE BAG! I'VE GOT A BANK TO CATCH BEFORE I GO HOME!
UN-COOPERATIVE OLD BAT!
THE PERFECTLY HOWWID WOTTER!



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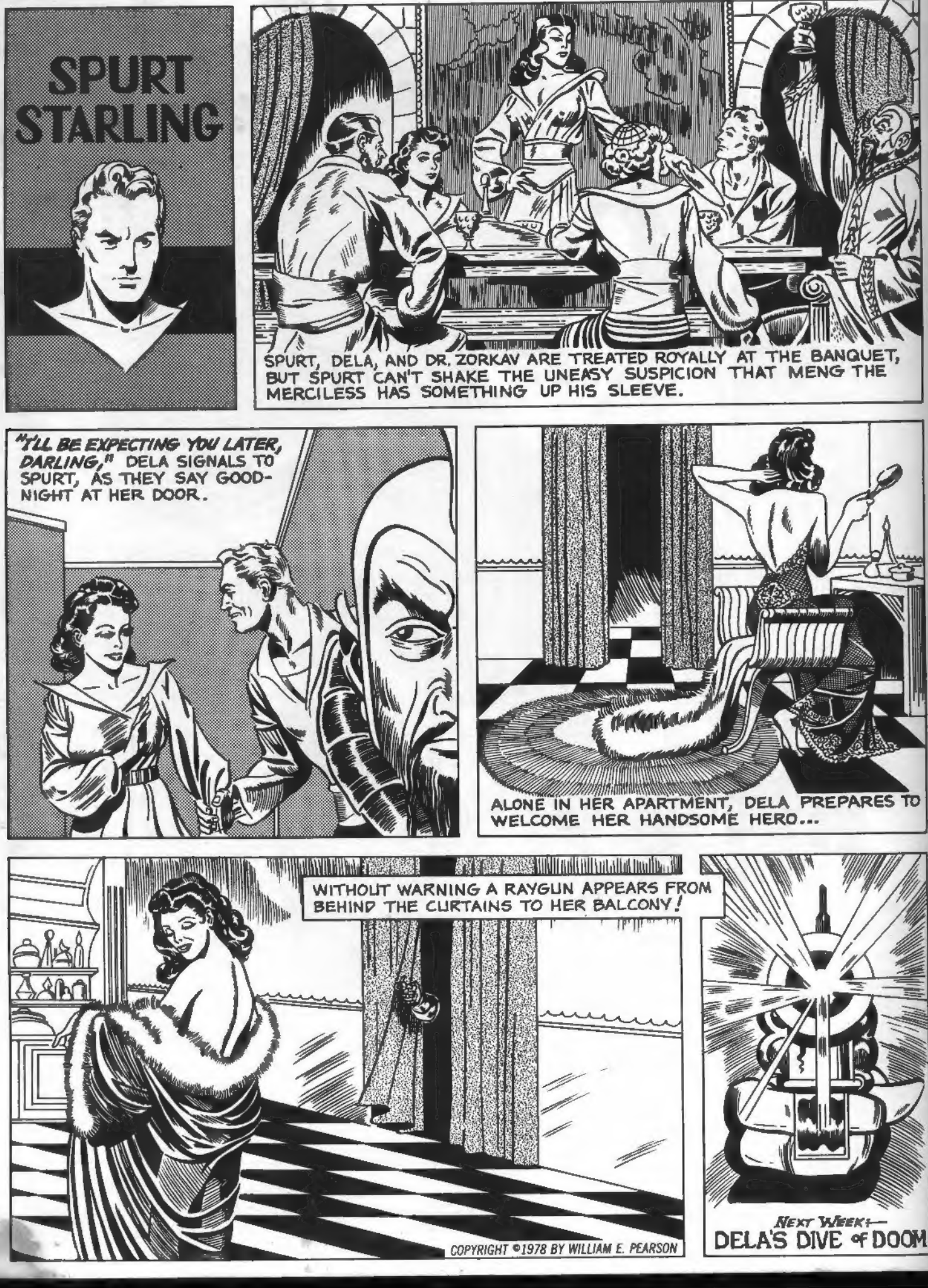
SPURT STARLING
SPURT, DELA, AND DR. ZORKAV ARE TREATED ROYALLY AT THE BANQUET, BUT SPURT CAN'T SHAKE THE UNEASY SUSPICION THAT MENG THE MERCILESS HAS SOMETHING UP HIS SLEEVE.
"I'LL BE EXPECTING YOU LATER, DARLING," DELA SIGNALS TO SPURT, AS THEY SAY GOOD-NIGHT AT HER DOOR.
ALONE IN HER APARTMENT, DELA PREPARES TO WELCOME HER HANDSOME HERO...
WITHOUT WARNING A RAYGUN APPEARS FROM BEHIND THE CURTAINS TO HER BALCONY!
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NEXT WEEK:— DELA'S DIVE of DOOM

A PORTFOLIO

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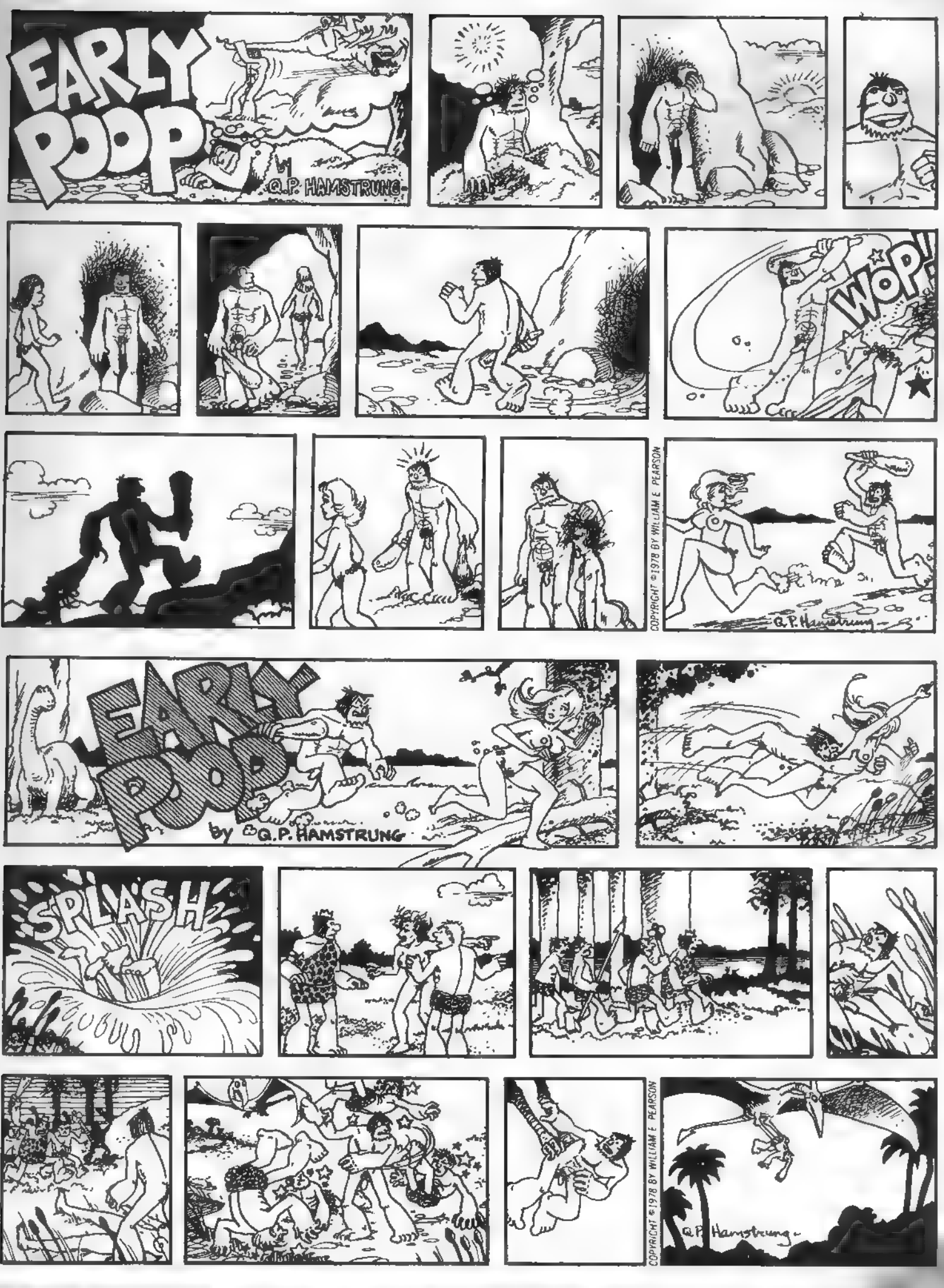
The Wicked World Of The Wizard King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by Q.P. HAMSTRUNG
WOP!
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EARLY POOP
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SPLASH!
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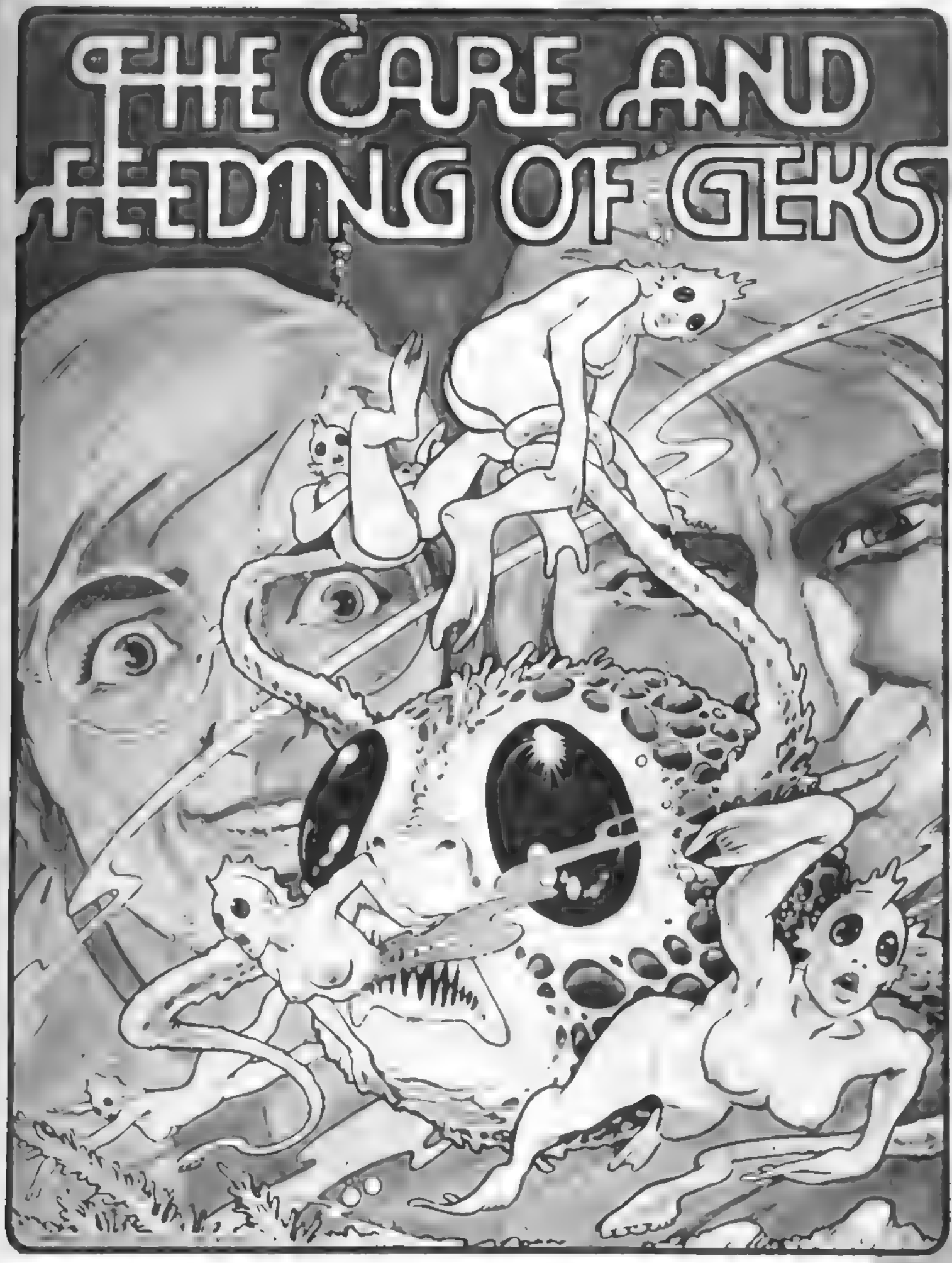
Q.P. Hamstrung

"Congratulations! You are now the owner of one of the most unusual aquatic pets in the entire galaxy. GEKS! They are harmless, lovable and fairly easy to keep clean ... but in order to gain maximum pleasure from these enjoyable creatures, equip your tank with a heater, air pump and filter."
The Gek survives on creatures which are native to its own planet, called BITS. Be sure to have a large supply on hand, since Geks are VORACIOUS EATERS."
"Also, make certain that the Bits are fresh, preferably alive. Drop the Bits into the tank and watch the FUN as the Gek stalks, then attacks its prey."
NICOLA CUTI/MICHAEL ZECK

THE CARE AND FEEDING OF GEKS



AW, MOM, I'M JUST LEARNING ABOUT NATURE
NATURE! HUMPH! DON'T THINK I HAVEN'T NOTICED HOW THESE BITS RESEMBLE HUMAN BEINGS AND HOW YOUR FATHER ONLY BUYS FEMALES
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
DOMINANCE OF WOMAN!
WILL YOU PLEASE STOP THAT, DORIS...
UH, DO YOU HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED FOR YOUR TRIP?
YOU GET A VICARIOUS THRILL FROM SEEING THOSE HELPLESS LITTLE BITS BEING RIPPED TO SHREDS!... AND YOU'RE TEACHING YOUR SICK PERVERSION TO TOMMY!
I'LL ONLY BE GONE A FEW DAYS MOTHER D'NT SOUND TOO ILL.. ARE YOU SURE YOU CAN FIX MEALS FOR YOU AND TOMMY?
OF COURSE, HONEY. TOMMY AND I CAN TAKE CARE OF OURSELVES.
BE A GOOD BOY AND DO WHATEVER YOUR FATHER TELLS YOU TO DO...
SO LONG SWEET HEART
GOOD-BYE, MOM. SAY HELLO TO NANNY FOR ME.
BACK TO FEEDING THE GER
UH OH, DAD, WE'RE IN TROUBLE.

THERE'S JUST ONE MORE LEFT! SHOULD WE SAVE HER FOR LATER OR GIVE HER TO THE GEK NOW?
SAVE HER!
WE'LL GET SOME MORE AT THE PET SHOP. LET'S GO.
WE'D LIKE A CONTAINER OF BITS. FEMALES ONLY! OUR GEK... UH, PREFERS JUST THE FEMALES.
I'M SORRY, SIR, BUT WE HAVE NO BITS, MALE OR FEMALE.
THE GOVERNMENT SUSPECTS THEY MIGHT BE SAPIENT CREATURES, AND HAS RESTRICTED THEIR SALE.
INTELLIGENT BITS?! THAT'S ABSURD!
DADDY, WHAT ARE WE GOING TO FEED WORMY?
YOU MIGHT TRY RAW MEAT. IT'S THE BLOOD THEY'RE REALLY AFTER.
"Since Geks are such picky eaters, it is doubtful that you will be able to lure them from their normal diet, should Bits be in short supply. Raw meat cannot replace living flesh."
HE'S NOT EVEN POKING AT THE MEAT, DAD.
WE'LL HAVE TO FEED HIM THE LAST BIT.
DO WE HAVE TO, DAD? I MEAN, NOW THAT WE KNOW HOW SMART IT IS, AN' ALL?
DROP IT IN, AND -YAWN- THEN LET'S GO TO BED.

SHE'S IN THE TANK, DAD, AN' WORMY SWALLOWED HER IN ONE BIG GULP!

RATS, I WANTED TO SEE THAT. OKAY, TOMMY, LET'S HIT THE SACK!
TOMORROW WE'LL SEE IF WE CAN FIND A SUBSTITUTE MEAL FOR THE GEK
G'NIGHT, DAD.

"When deprived of their standard diet, only the blood of living animals will satisfy Geks..."

"Some Geks have been known to crawl from their ponds in search of a fat PIJIUS or juicy EARTHORM. Once they find a victim..."

"...Two hollow needles extend from the tips of their feeding tentacles. The first needle draws out the BLOOD of their host, while the second needle..."

"...replaces the blood with a POTENT FLUID known only as GEKIOUS. The effects of this chemical on animals is bizarre and it is fortunate that the Gek has NEVER attacked a human in this way."

Some of the observed recipients of GEKKOS have developed a craving for the Gek's food, BITS.
Other victims have actively undergone fantastic metamorphosis of their physical appearance.
It therefore behooves you to keep your Gek well fed, given though humans are NOT in danger.
DAD, ARE YOU GOING TO BE LONG? THE HALLOWAYS WILL BE HERE SOON TO TAKE US TO THE BEACH.
I JUST GOT IN HERE!
HAVEN'T EVEN TURNED THE LIGHT ON YET.
WHERE'S THE DAMNED-- AHHH, HERE IT IS.
MAN, HOW I HATE TO LOOK AT MYSELF IN THE MORNING...
AND I FEEL PARTICULARLY LOUSY TODAY.
WOW, DO I NEED A CLOSE SHAV--
KYIK
OH, MY GOD!
MY GOD!

ARE YOU ALRIGHT, DAD?
YEAH, YEAH, I'M... UH... FINE.
LOOK, UH... SON, I WANT YOU TO GO TO THE BEACH WITHOUT ME. MAYBE I'LL JOIN YOU LATER.
IT ISN'T A GAG... THIS STUFF IS REAL!
CAN'T I USE THE BATHROOM?
AW, I'LL GO NEXT DOOR AND ASK THE HALLOWAYS IF I CAN USE THEIRS.
SORRY YOUR DAD IS ILL, TOMMY... DO YOU WANT TO GO FOR A SWIM?
SURE, TINA, BUT GO SLOW... 'CAUSE I DON'T SWIM AS GOOD AS YOU.
WHAT ARE YOU STARING AT, YOU LITTLE RASCAL?
THE GIRLS. THEY LOOK LIKE BITS. YOU KNOW, GEK FOOD.
I DON'T KNOW IF THAT'S A COMPLIMENT OR NOT. I'VE NEVER SEEN A BIT UP CLOSE.
I'LL SHOW YOU HOW TO SWIM AS WELL AS ME. WOULD YOU LIKE THAT?
COULD YOU SHOW ME HOW TO SWIM AS FAST AS MY DAD?
HE'S THE FASTEST GUY I KNOW IN THE WATER.
BITS! YUM!

HOW 'MY DOIN', TINA? ~PUFF PUFF~ TINA, AM I SWIMMIN' RIGHT?
TINA?
TINA!! WHERE ARE YOU?
WHAT? WORMY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
HEY, YOU'RE NOT WORMY! ...YOU'RE TOO BIG!
HELP! HELP ME, SOMEBODY! I'M BEIN' 'TACKED BY A SEA MONSTER!
DON'T FIGHT ME, SON. IT'S DADDY!

"As long as your Gek's water is kept free of debris and waste matter and he is well fed, you may look forward to enjoying a long-lived, contented pet."
HI, EVERYBODY. I'M HOME.
DID YOU EAT WEL--?
HELLO, HONEY.
TOMMY AND I WERE JUST ABOUT TO HAVE A SNACK.
CARE FOR A BITE?
OH, GOD!

SPURT STARLING
AFTER SHOOTING DELA, THE EMPEROR'S EVIL DAUGHTER AARU DRAGS THE UNCONSCIOUS GIRL OUT TO THE BALCONY....
AND THROWS HER OVER THE EDGE!
DELA'S CHANCE FOR SURVIVAL IS SLIM.
MEANWHILE, UNAWARE OF AARU'S TREACHERY, SPURT HURRIES TO KEEP HIS MIDNIGHT RENDEZVOUS.
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NEXT WEEK:— A FATEFUL LIAISON

THE ENORMOUS SLUG SUCKERS* FROM THE PLANET MARS!!

Many otherwise well-informed citizens believe Mars is just a dead empty place, but there are, in fact, millions of enormous slugsuckers inhabiting the planet....

Originally there were several species of slugs: The slug-plungers, the slugmuggers, the slugsluggards, and various others, but most of these are now extinct, or close to it, because the slugsuckers are, indeed, enormous!

The favorite diet of the enormous slug-suckers is small and medium-sized slugs, lower on the evolutionary ladder than themselves....

URP!

HEY!

MMMM

PUS GRUB POKED FOR A LONG WHILE, DELIBERATING ON THE CAREFUL, LOW KEY PITCH OF HIS IMMEDIATE SUBORDINATE, PUS MAK, THE FOREMAN, AS THEY SURVEYED THE DUSTY GANG BELOW, METHODICALLY SCANNING THE LOCAL GIP BLOODS AS FAST AS THEY APPEARED. HE'D BEEN LEADING UP TO SOMETHING FOR WEEKS, UNTIL FINALLY...
YOU'VE DONE WHAT?!
BY THE LAWS OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL, YOU'RE GUILTY OF MURDER!
YOU DIDN'T FORBID ME TO TRY IT, GRUB, AND VERY LITTLE HARM WILL COME OF IT.... IF YOU DON'T REPORT IT TO THE COUNCIL...
2

VERY LITTLE HARM?!!
THE FAMILIES OF THOSE WHO DIED MIGHT THINK OTHERWISE!
OF WHAT MEASURE IS THE PASSING GRIEF OF A FEW COMPARED TO THE COMFORT OF US ALL?
LET'S NOT BE TOO PHILOSOPHICAL ABOUT THIS, MAK—. WE BOTH KNOW YOUR SELFISH MOTIVATION FOR THIS.
EVERYONE SEEKS SELF-IMPROVEMENT. THIS COULD LEAD TO A VERY NICE THING FOR YOU TOO.... IF WE HANDLE IT RIGHT.
UMMMMMM
I'VE MADE NO DEALS WITH YOU.
YOU'RE MAKING ONE RIGHT NOW, GRUB. I'VE RECORDED SEVERAL OF OUR CONVERSATIONS. IF I'M CALLED ON THIS, YOUR FALL WILL BE A LOT HARDER THAN MINE.
WHAT?! ARE YOU THREATENING ME?
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS NOTHING.... THE EASIEST THING IN THE WORLD— AND ENJOY THE BENEFITS.
MY INTERPHONE'S RINGING.
BZZAAAAT!!
YES SIR, I'LL BE RIGHT UP.
I HAVE TO GO NOW. I'LL HAVE TO THINK ABOUT IT.
MEANWHILE, MY IMPETUOUS FOOL, DON'T MAKE ANY MORE RASH MOVES UNTIL I'VE DECIDED ABOUT THIS!
HA! SNORT! TEE HEE...
O POOR FOOL FELL FOR IT HOOK, LINE, AND SINKER....
UMMMMMM

PUS GRUB REPORTS TO HIS SECTION CHIEF....

COME IN, GRUB, I'M ANXIOUS TO HEAR HOW IT WENT.

I JUST LEFT MAK A FEW MINUTES AGO.

HE'S GONE FOR IT 100%.

SPLENDID! SPLENDID... I KNEW YOU COULD HANDLE THIS, GRUB.

I WANT YOU TO KNOW I'M MENTIONING YOUR NAME PROMINENTLY IN MY REPORT TO PUS WUTHER

THAT NIGHT GRUB LEAVES THE OFFICE WITH GRANDIOSE VISIONS OF A ROSY FUTURE IN THE UPPER ECHELONS OF THE PLUGWORKS PERVADING HIS FANTASIES...

YOU'RE LOOKING IN UNUSUALLY FINE SPIRITS THIS EVENING, PUS GRUB...

I WON'T DENY IT, OLD ONE. I FEEL TODAY LIKE ONE OF THE PUPS ON YOUR WHEEL.

WHAT PERVERSE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE DAY HAS GIVEN **THAT** TYRANT A RADIATING KARMISH?

THREE PLEASE, PUS FERRIS

HELLO PUPS! HOW WONDERFUL TO SEE YOU!

ALL THREE TOGETHER? HOW FORTUNATE FOR YOU, **TODAY ONLY**— THREE TURNS ON THE WHEEL FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!

DURING THE LONG TUBE RIDE TO HIS SUBURBAN COMB, GRUB RUMINATES OVER THE DRAMATIC DEVELOPMENTS OF THE LAST FEW HOURS....

HUUHH

MAKE WAY YOU BIG TUB OF LARD!

I'M DEFINITELY IN LINE FOR A PROMOTION TO THE MAIN LEVEL PLUGWORKS!

DAMN ENORMOUS SLUGSUCKERS THINK THEY OWN THE PLANET!

The Wanton World Of The Wizard King

A PORTFOLIO

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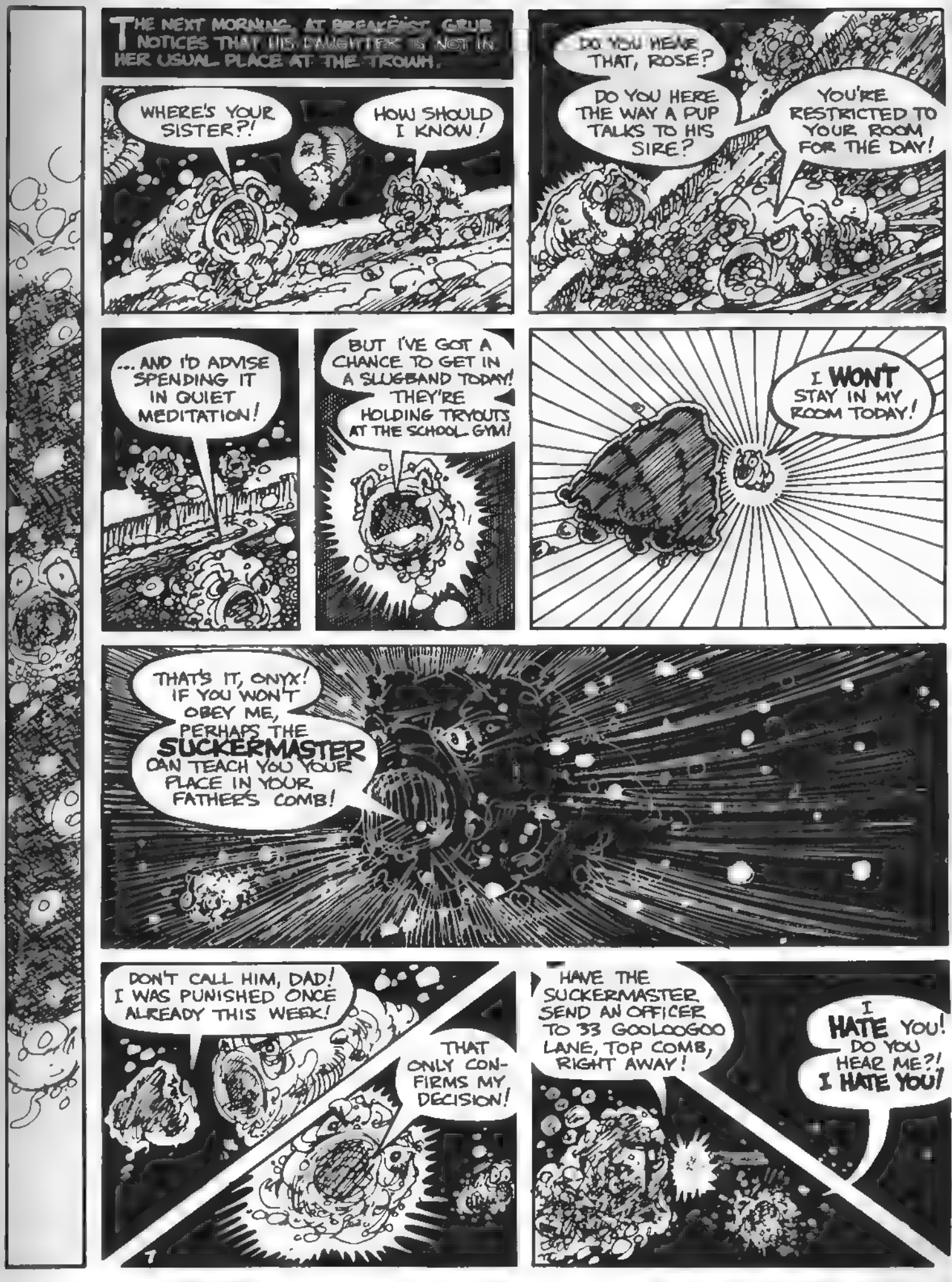
witzend

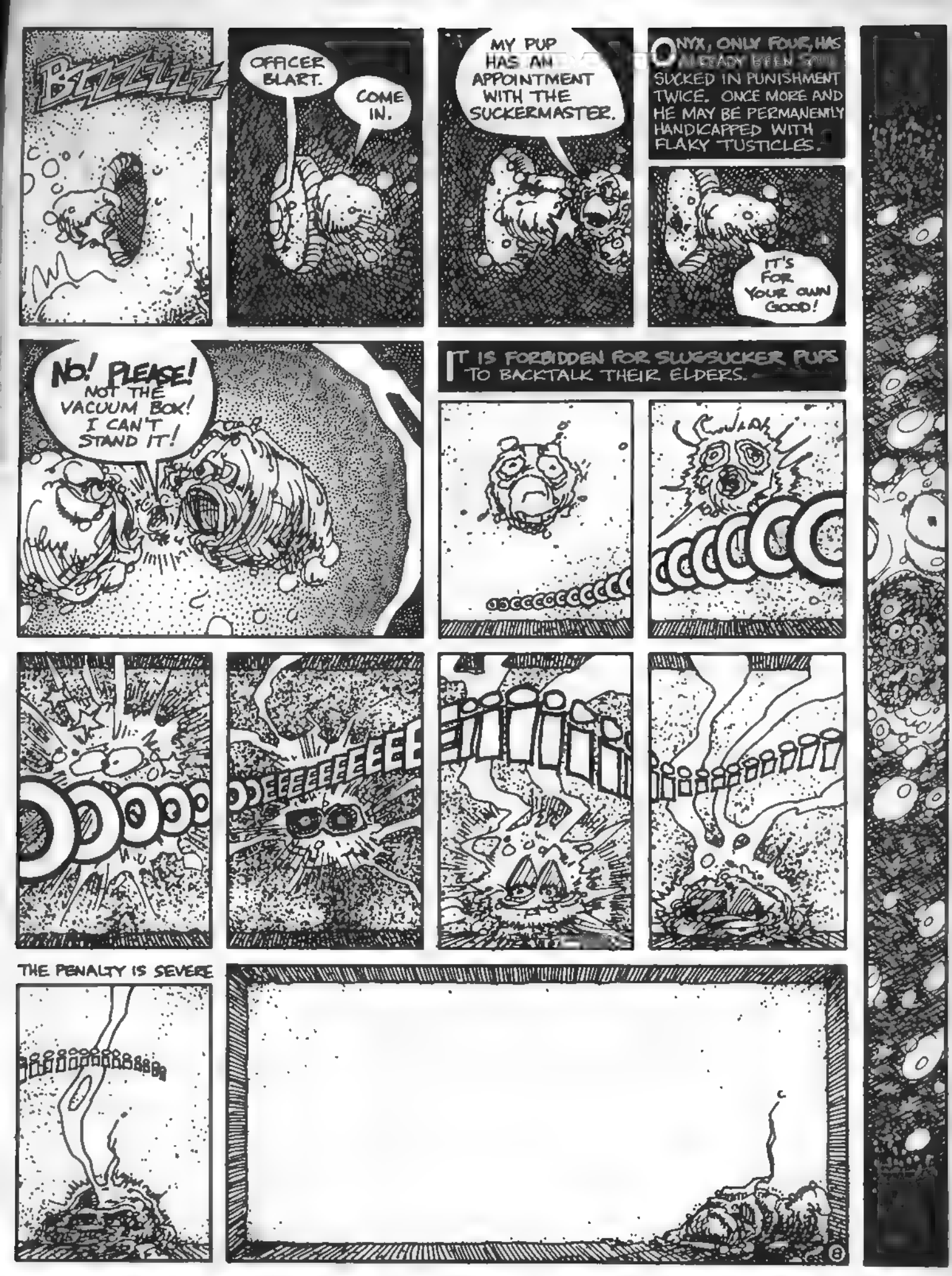
THE FATE OF MILLIONS RESTS WITH THE CONSCIENCE OF THIS MIDDLE-CLASS SLUGSUCKER, BUT AS A GENERAL RULE HE NEVER BRINGS HIS PROBLEMS HOME FROM THE OFFICE....

I WONDER WHAT'S FOR SUPPER TONIGHT?

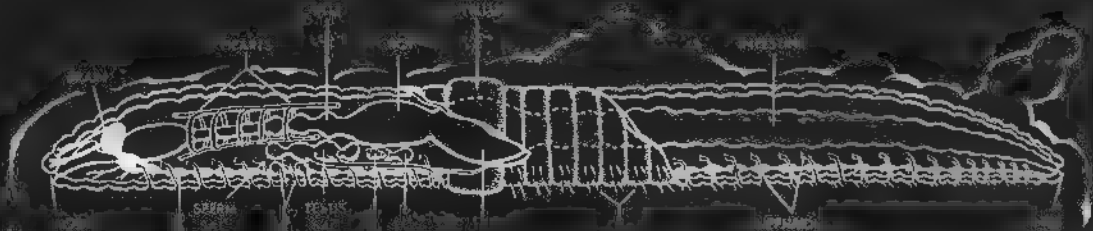
HUMMM

WELL BEFORE DAWN, iiiLA MAKES HER WAY TO THE INNER RINGS, SEARCHING FOR HER WOUNDED LOVER. THERE ARE NO PATROLS HERE — THIS RIPE FEMALE IS A TARGET!
SHADOW ON H
I THINK THIS IS THE TURN, BUT I'M NOT SURE....
THE OLD SEWER LINE-- THE CONDEMNED COMB-- BUT IT'S DARK!..
SKA
.... I WONDER IF SULLY MADE IT HOME?
HUSH
SULLY! SWEETPUSS! IT'S ME, iiiLA!
UMMMP!
SULLY! YOU STARTLED ME!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, iiiLA?!
I THOUGHT YOU HATED THIS PLACE.
I'LL GET TO LIKE IT, DARLING, IF YOU STILL WANT ME!
BABY!


THE NEXT MORNING, AT BREAKFAST, GRUB NOTICES THAT HIS DAUGHTER IS NOT IN HER USUAL PLACE AT THE TROUGH.
WHERE'S YOUR SISTER?!
HOW SHOULD I KNOW!
DO YOU WEAR THAT, ROSE?
DO YOU HERE THE WAY A PUP TALKS TO HIS SIRE?
YOU'RE RESTRICTED TO YOUR ROOM FOR THE DAY!
... AND I'D ADVISE SPENDING IT IN QUIET MEDITATION!
BUT I'VE GOT A CHANCE TO GET IN A SLUGBAND TODAY! THEY'RE HOLDING TRYOUTS AT THE SCHOOL GYM!
I WON'T STAY IN MY ROOM TODAY!
THAT'S IT, ONYX! IF YOU WON'T OBEY ME, PERHAPS THE SUCKERMASTER CAN TEACH YOU YOUR PLACE IN YOUR FATHEER'S COMB!
DON'T CALL HIM, DAD! I WAS PUNISHED ONCE ALREADY THIS WEEK!
THAT ONLY CONFIRMS MY DECISION!
HAVE THE SUCKERMASTER SEND AN OFFICER TO 33 GOOLOOGOO LANE, TOP COMB, RIGHT AWAY!
I HATE YOU! DO YOU HEAR ME?! I HATE YOU!


BZZZZZZ
OFFICER BLART.
COME IN.
MY PUP HAS AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE SUCKERMASTER.
ONYX, ONLY FOUR, HAS ALREADY BEEN SUCKED IN PUNISHMENT TWICE. ONCE MORE AND HE MAY BE PERMANENTLY HANDICAPPED WITH FLAKY TUSTICLES.
IT'S FOR YOUR OWN GOOD!
No! PLEASE! NOT THE VACUUM BOX! I CAN'T STAND IT!
IT IS FORBIDDEN FOR SLUGSUCKER PUPS TO BACKTALK THEIR ELDERS.
THE PENALTY IS SEVERE

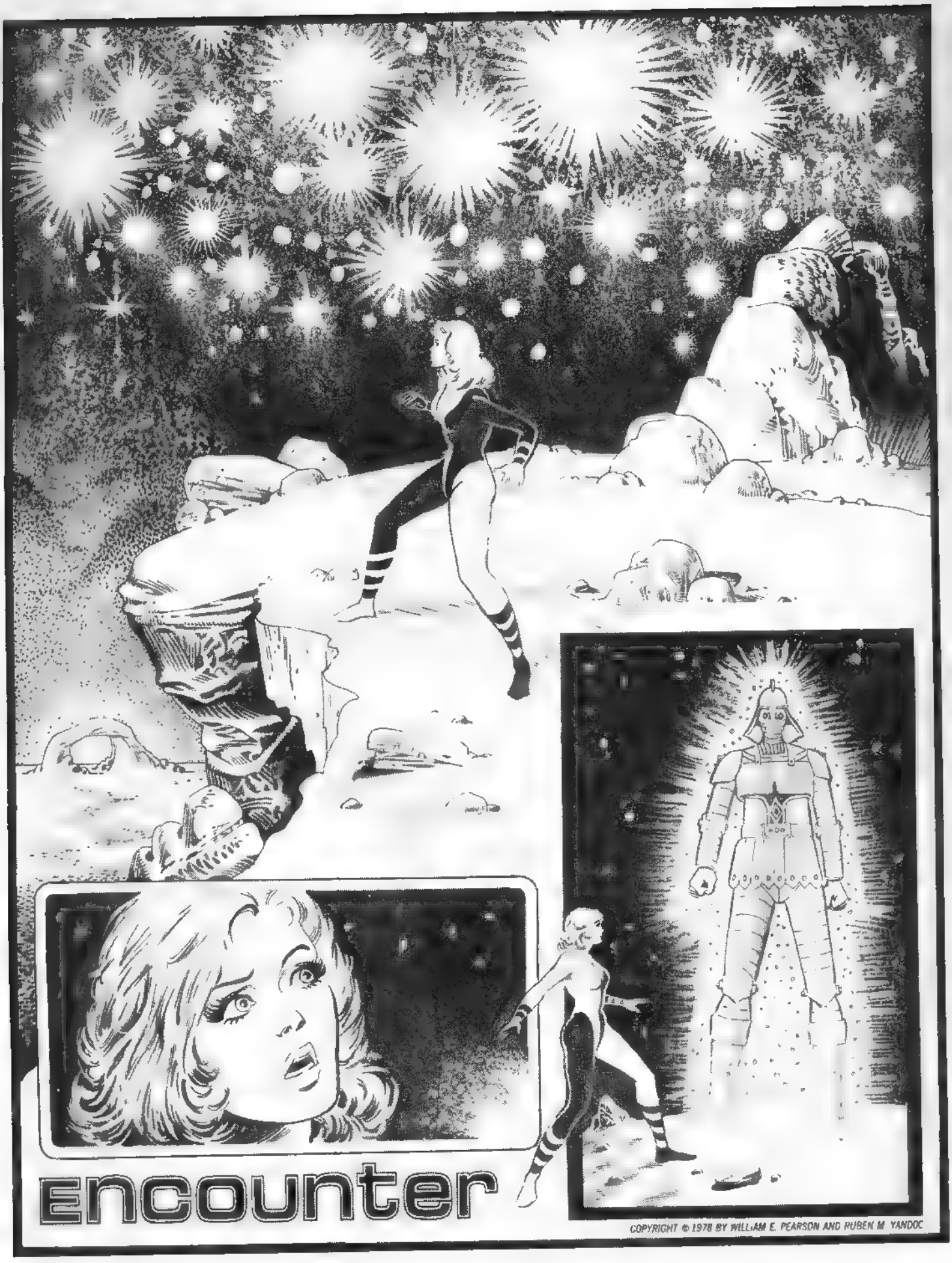
The Slugsucker



The Body of the Slugsucker. Strange as it may seem, the slugsucker has ten "hearts," or aortic arches. Every slugsucker has two sets of sexual organs. The testis and sperm sac are the male organs, the egg sac and ovary are the female organs. One set is normally regressive, although hermaphrodites are not rare. The broad band of the clitellum is used for reproduction, following a brief but intense bristling ceremony commonly referred to as "foshing." The nephridia, like human kidneys, give off waste matter. The entire body is covered with a spongy pus which protects the skin from the poisonous semi-liquid atmosphere of the Martian surface. It also aids in the buoyancy and locomotion of the creature.

IF YOU'VE SEEN ONE, YOU'VE SEEN THEM ALL...

BILL BEARSON



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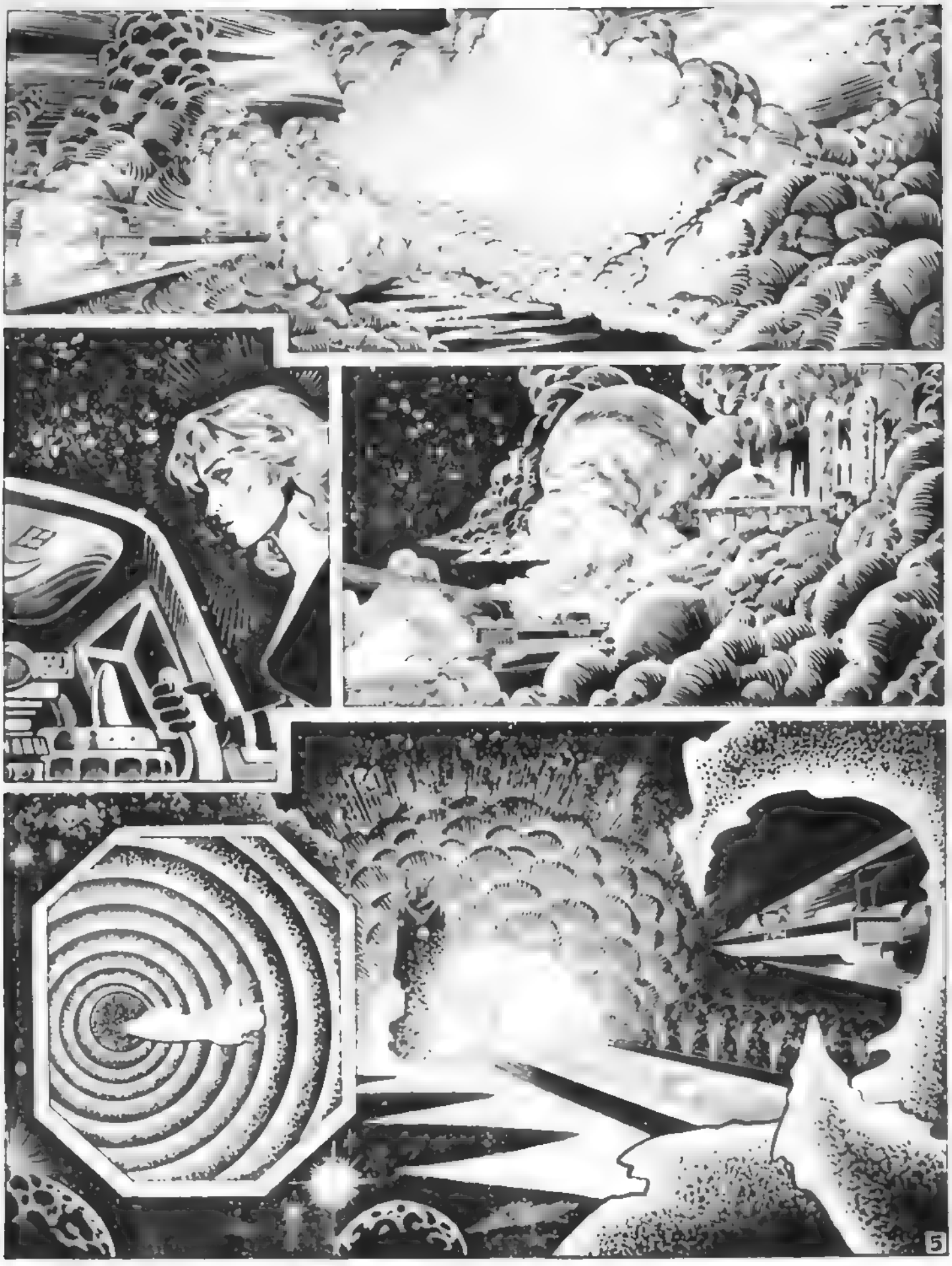
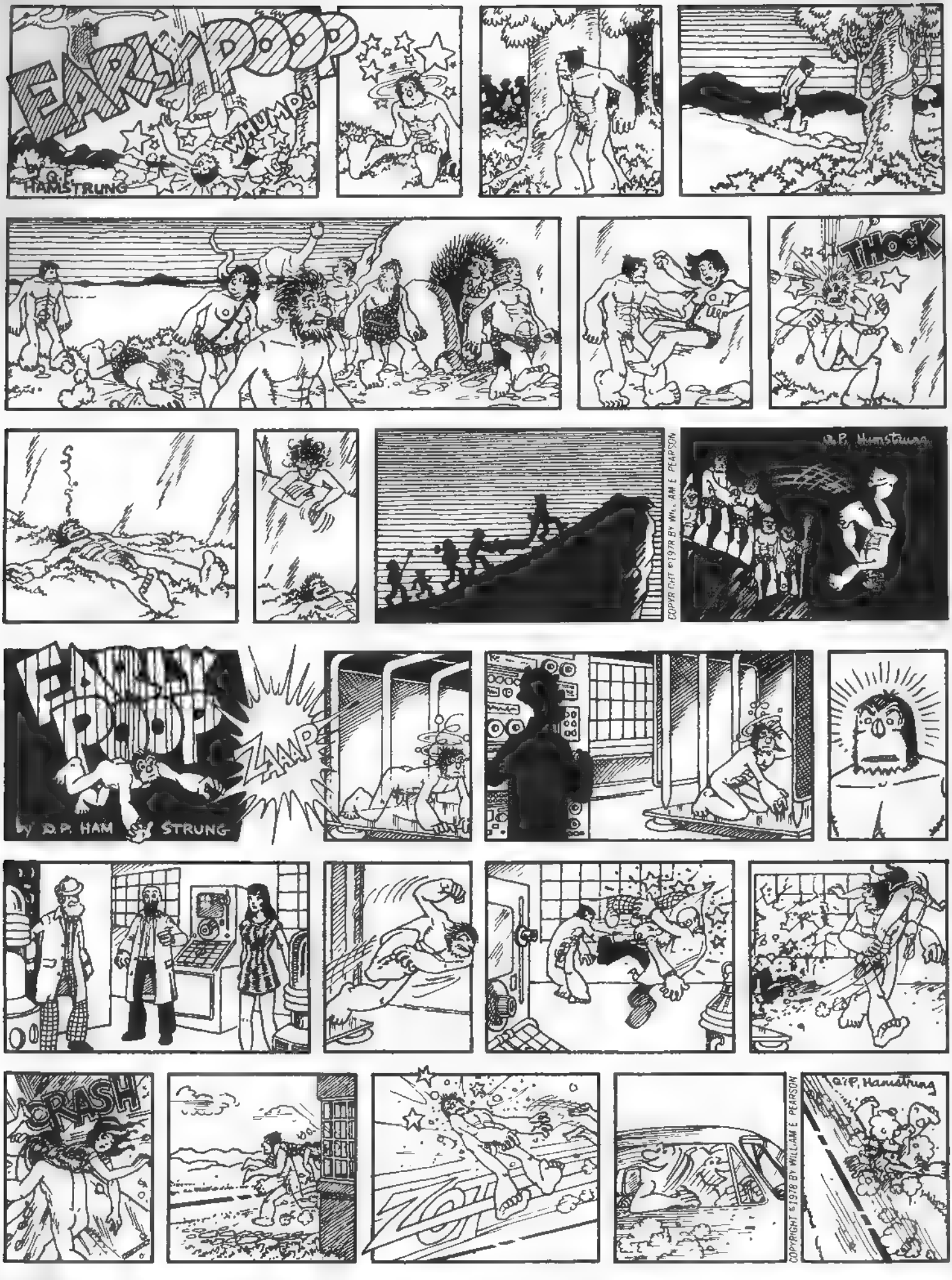


next: the Awakening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WHUMPO!
by Q.P. HAMSTRUNG
THOCK
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Q.P. Hamstrung
ZAAP!
by D.P. HAM & STRUNG
CRASH
ZOT!
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The Welcome World Of The Wizard King

A PORTFOLIO

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SPURT STARLING
FOR THE SECOND TIME THIS NIGHT, A BODY PLUMMETS FROM A BALCONY OF MENG'S CASTLE!...
"DELA!" WHISPERS A SHADOWY FIGURE, AS HE ENTERS HER ROOM...
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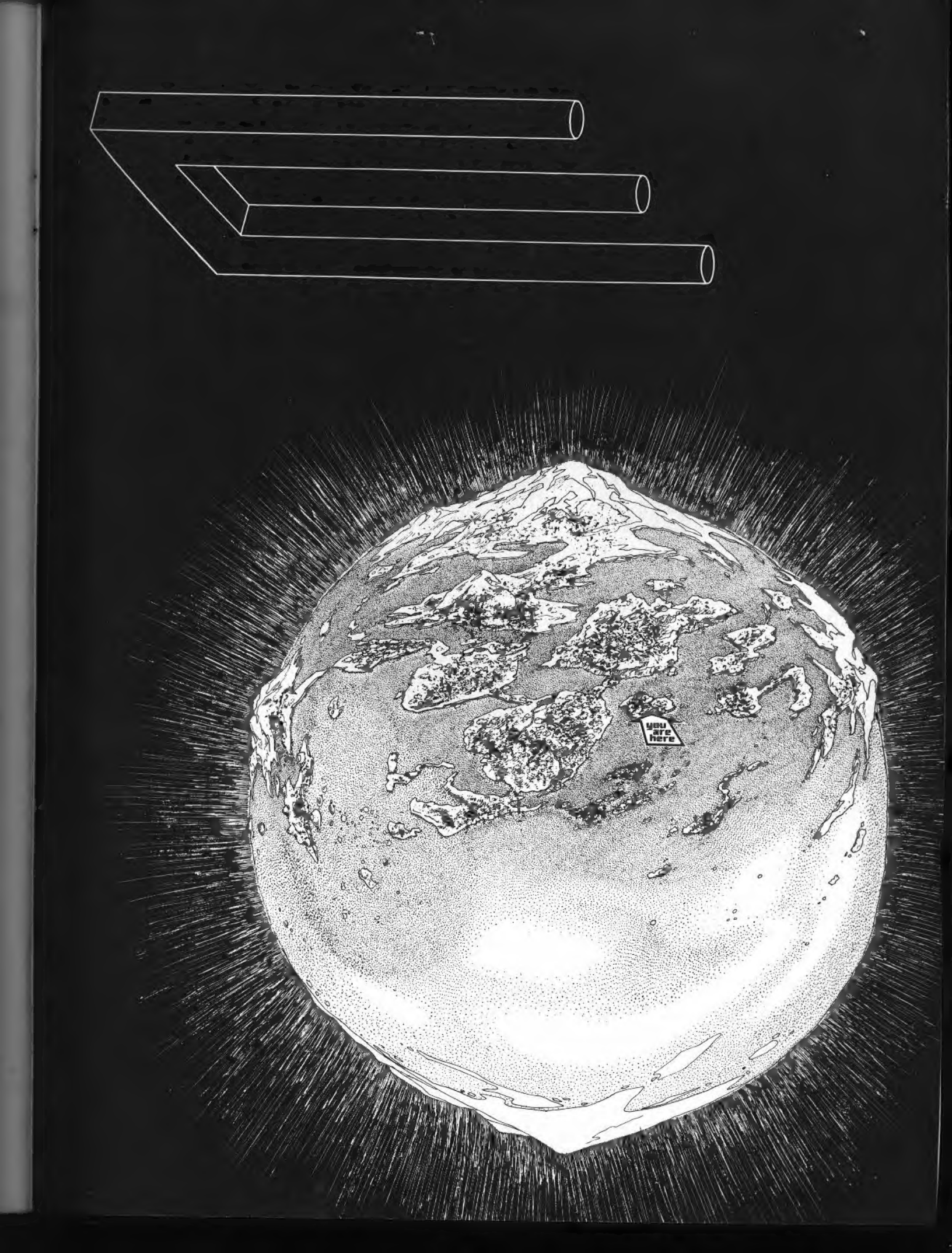
"SPURT.... DARLING!..." COMES A THROATY WELCOME FROM THE GIRL SPRAWLED SEDUCTIVELY AMONGST HER PILLOWS....
A LANGUID AARU AWAKES TO THE FIRST RAYS OF DAWN STREAMING THROUGH THE WINDOWS, HER ARDENT LOVER STILL ASLEEP BY HER SIDE....
RICHELAW
"DADDY!"
NEXT WEEK!— A DOMESTIC DILEMMA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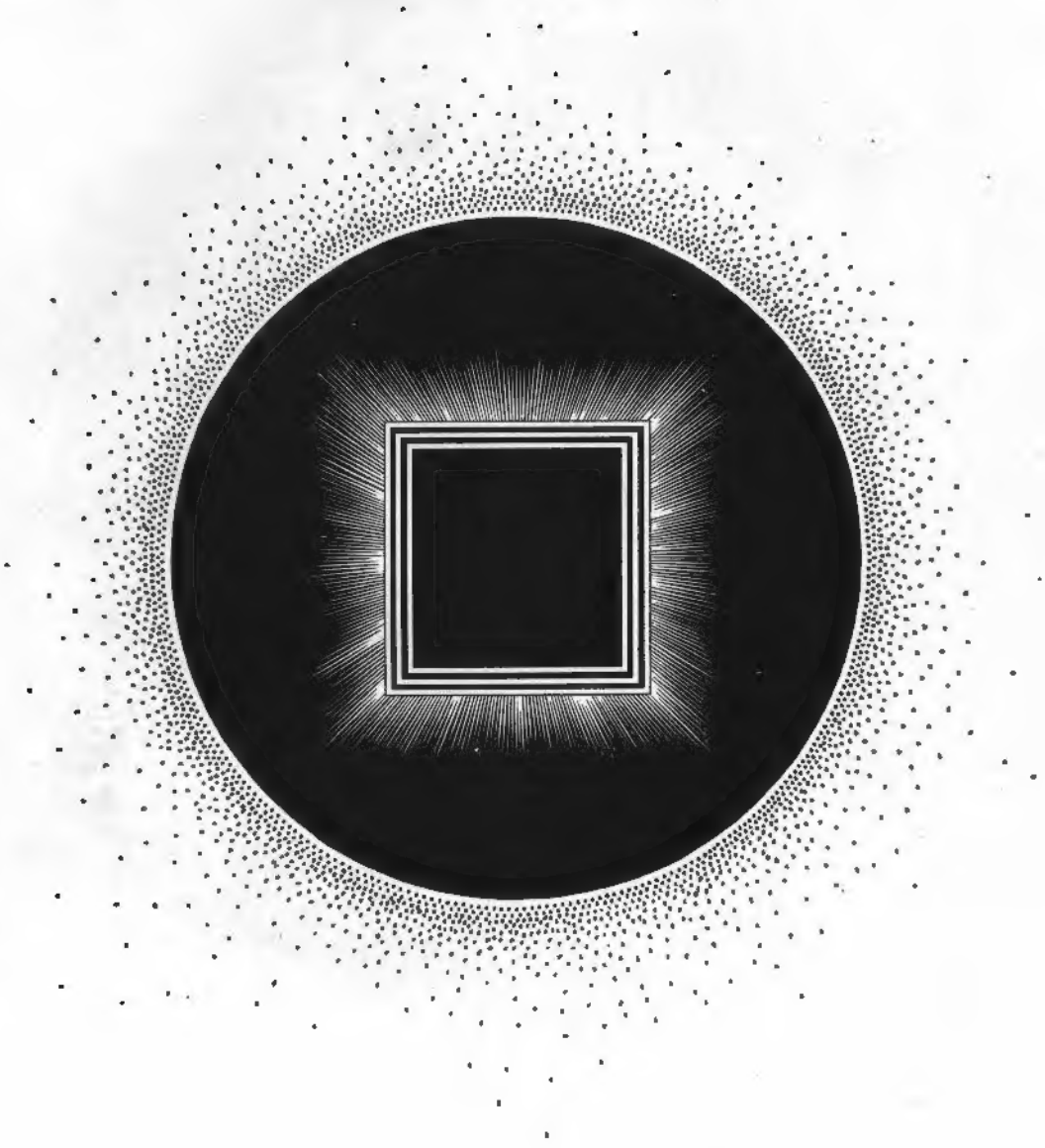

BILL PEARSON

SEX! VIOLENCE! WEIRDNESS!
$4.00
SPACE WARPED!
SPURT STARLING
CHAMPION OF MONGO
THE ENORMOUS SUG SUCKERS FROM THE PLANET MARS!
SEE INNOCENT MONSTERS RAVAGED BY LUST CRAZED GIRLS!